

Buy Car Lines, Plea By Commissioners

Newman, Siddons, and Harding Are Unanimous in Favor of Municipal Ownership of Street Railways at Hearing Before House District Committee.

Commissioners Newman, Siddons, and Harding appeared before the House District Committee today in advocacy of municipal ownership of the street railways of the Capital.

The District committee was the only House board active today. The House, itself, and all other committees did not convene because of Memorial Day.

Commissioner Newman led off with the unqualified statement that municipal ownership, in his opinion, would be for the benefit of Washington. There was unanimity of opinion on this score among the District heads, although the committee was requested not to press the Commissioners for statements about the management of the street car lines as now existing.

MANAGEMENT NOT DISCUSSED.

It was explained that the question of management, service and physical valuation is now pending before the Public Utilities Commission and it would be unbecoming for the Commissioners to discuss this matter in advance of or during their investigation. "A service which is public ought to be rendered by the public, and not for private profit," Commissioner Newman asserted. Mr. Newman explained that as a newspaper man, with experience in many cities, he had become convinced before his appointment as Commissioner that municipal ownership of public utilities is preferable to private ownership. "Then you were prejudiced on this question before you became Commissioner," suggested Congressman Winslow of Massachusetts, whose questions during the hearings on the Crocker bill have indicated his belief in municipal ownership is not the thing. "No, I would not call it prejudice. I had a conviction," said Commissioner Newman.

Cities Census Figures. Commissioner Newman presented statistics from the Census Bureau showing the number of cities which have turned from private to municipal ownership of street railways within the past decade. He said that there had been a material increase in the number of municipally-owned electric lighting plants, as shown by the following figures submitted. In 1907 there were 2,966 privately owned electric lighting plants in the United States. In 1912 there were 2,650, an increase of 20.4 per cent. In 1907 there were 1,352 publicly owned electric lighting plants and in 1912 there were 1,652, an increase of 22.2 per cent. In 1907 there were 1,352 publicly owned electric lighting plants, which means that the increase during the five-year period from 1907 to 1912 was 30. During this five-year period, 108 electric lighting plants were changed from private to municipal ownership and eighty were changed from municipal to private ownership.

686,511,125 in Public Plants. The total assets of the 1,652 publicly owned electric lighting plants of the United States are \$68,511,125, and their liabilities are \$68,522,593, leaving them a net surplus of \$11,668,532. The items making up the assets include cost of construction, equipment and real estate, their permanent investments, cash and current assets, including supplies, stock and bond discounts, sinking and other special funds, sundries, and profit and loss. The items making up liabilities include funded debt, cash, real estate mortgages, floating debts, reserves, accounts payable, interest and taxes due and accrued, sundries, and profit and loss. The gross income of the 1,652 publicly owned electric lighting plants in 1912 was \$23,215,880, and the gross expense was \$16,917,186, making a net profit of \$6,298,694. In no one of the forty-eight States was a loss shown. In 1906, according to the report of the Census Bureau, there were 1,192 publicly owned gas plants in the United States, out of a total of 1,296. According to Dr. Edward W. Bamford, a well known public utility engineer, this is

the present management of the companies," said Mr. Newman. "And you do not undertake to substantiate your argument with specific reasons?" "Well, I will say this," said Commissioner Newman, "already the Public Utilities Commission, in its attempt to regulate the Washington companies, has met with so much obstruction and opposition to effective regulation that I seriously doubt that we can regulate them effectively, and for that reason, in addition to general reasons, I urge the passage of the Crocker bill. Congressmen Caraway and Igoe asked if the private ownership of the suburban lines would be an impediment to the municipal operation of the city lines. Commissioner Newman thought this difficulty could be met by contract or by giving the Commissioners authority to operate outside of the District and as interstate carriers.

Unanimous in View. Commissioner Siddons said he was in general accord with the contentions of Mr. Newman and Commissioner Harding, who was present waiting to testify, was in sympathy with the views of his colleagues.

Commissioner Siddons said there always would be trouble between private public service corporations and the communities they may serve. It is natural, he said, for private owners to look at a question from the standpoint of profit when extension and better service are asked.

"There has been discussion here," he said, "of the failure of municipal ownership. I want to say that I do not know of any more unhappy chapter than that of public utility corporations privately owned. Regulation of them has come not because they conducted their affairs to give general and complete satisfaction, but because of their failure to do so."

As contributing causes to the failure of privately-owned monopolies, Commissioner Siddons cited poor service and equipment, lack of extension, processes of receivership which squeeze out small stockholders, demands for profit on capitalization not represented by cash, internal squabbles among stockholders, and large promotion charges. He said he spoke in a general sense, and not of any one city.

Discussing the era of regulation, he said that it was true that "private ownership has been better when the heavy hand of the law has been felt."

"You believe that all public utilities, of every character, should be publicly owned," asked Mr. Winslow.

"Yes," "You would make no exceptions even if the private service is satisfactory?" "No, I think all public service concerns should be operated for and by the public," answered Commissioner Siddons.

Mr. Siddons said the trouble with private ownership is that the owners are naturally trying to make all they can. "Congressman Winslow said nobody would pay the losses if a private venture was unsuccessful, and he ventured that those who took a chance ought to have the profits in the event of a venture being a success."

THREE UPSETS IN "GASOLINE DERBY"

INDIANAPOLIS, May 29.—Three upsets in the first laps of the "gasoline derby" today.

With Chasagnon's Sunbeam, Tetra's Maxwell, and Wilcox's Gray Fox in the lead by virtue of fortunate drawing and struggling for first place, the start was made at 9:30 o'clock.

Thomas, a Delage, established a new world's record for the 100 miles, when he averaged 55.32, making it 1:39:32.32. The former record, 1:41:37.23, was established in a Fiat in 1912.

King, Dawson's mechanic, was irritable hurt. He was taken from under the car. Dawson was running eight laps behind the leader.

Gilholley also was running eight laps behind the leader. Chasagnon and his mechanic were uninjured, and the Sunbeam car will get back into the race.

ENGEL STOPS SOX AND GRIFFMEN WIN

(Continued from First Page.)

Henry doubled to left. Engel fanned.

Janviri fled to Morgan. Gardner fouled to Gandil. Gainer fled to Moeller.

Seventh Inning. Gardner threw out Moeller. Foster walked. Miller forced Foster. Janviri to Scott. Gandil fled to Speaker.

Thomas singled to left. Henriksen batted for Collins. He walked. Hooper walked, filling the bases. Scott popped to Foster. Lewis lined to McBride, and Henriksen was doubled off second.

Eighth Inning. Combe went in to pitch for Boston. Shanks singled and was caught on first. Morgan singled to center, but was out trying for two bases. Speaker to Scott. McBride singled. Henry fanned.

Ninth Inning. Engle was thrown out by the pitcher. Moeller fanned, and Foster grounded out to Gainer.

Gainer out, Gandil to Engel, who covered first. Thomas singled to center, and got two bases when Gainer let pass him. Reh batted for Combe and fled to Miller. Hooper singled to right.

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"I tried several ointments and took a treatment but nothing did me any good. I had been troubled with the tetter for about one year when I began using Cuticura Soap and Ointment. After bathing with Cuticura Soap and applying Cuticura Ointment I was astonished to see the great relief. Cuticura Soap and Ointment cured me in four weeks." (Signed) Miss Vera Bell, June 27, 1913.

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THE BOX SCORE:

Washington	A. B.	R.	H.	P.	O.	A.	E.
Moeller, cf.	5	2	1	1	1	1	0
Foster, 3b.	4	1	1	1	1	1	0
Janviri, cf.	3	2	1	1	1	1	0
Gandil, 1b.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shanks, lf.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morgan, 2b.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
McBride, ss.	3	1	2	1	1	1	0
Henry, c.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ayres, p.	4	0	0	0	0	0	2
Engel, p.	4	0	1	1	1	1	0
Totals	33	6	12	27	8	4	0

Boston	A. B.	R.	H.	P.	O.	A.	E.
Hooper, rf.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scott, ss.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lewis, lf.	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Speaker, cf.	3	0	1	1	1	1	0
Janviri, 2b.	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gardner, 3b.	4	1	2	0	0	0	0
Gainer, 1b.	4	1	1	1	1	1	0
Collins, p.	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thomas, c.	2	1	2	3	0	0	0
Leonard, p.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Combe, p.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coumbe, p.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reh, p.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henriksen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	34	4	8	27	11	1	0

Left on bases—Washington, 5; Boston, 6. First base the last out.

4 off Leonard, 2 off Collins, 2 in pitched—By Ayers, 1; by Engel, 8; by Leonard, 2; 1-3; by Collins, 1-2-3; by Combe, 1; Rita made—Off Ayers, 2; off Engel, 5; off Combe, 3; off Leonard, 4; off Collins, 5. Struck out—By Ayers, 2; by Leonard, 1; by Collins, 1; by Combe, 2; by Leonard, 1; by Collins, 2. Three-base hits—Hooper, Gainer, 2-base hits—Gardner, Gainer, Gandil, Henry. Sacrifice hits—Carigan, Stolen bases—McBride, Moeller. Double plays—Foster to Gandil to Shanks; McBride to Speaker to Scott. Hit by pitcher—By Engel, (Scott). Wild pitches—Engel, 2. Umpires—Chill and Sheridan.

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